

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

EUR-12 IGA-02 AID-05 /089 W

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R 261016Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3818

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

SECDEF

CNO

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 0195

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : MARR, BA

SUBJECT : REGIONAL SUPPORT FOR MIDEASTFOR

REF: STATE 17267

1. OUR ASSESSMENT OF UAE ATTITUDE TOWARD MIDEASTFOR PRESENCE
ON BAHRAIN REMAINS AS EXPRESSED IN EMBASSY'S 1581 OF LAST SUMMER.
IF SAUDIS WERE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES PUBLICLY IN FAVOR OF CON-
TINUED PRESENCE IT WOULD HAVE IMPACT HERE. UAEG WOULD NOT,
WE THINK, AGREE WITH THEM, BUT SUCH SAUDI POSITION WOULD PROBABLY
HAVE EFFECT OF NEUTRALIZING UAE POSITION WITHIN ARAB COUNCILS. OTHER

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WISE WE BELIEVE UAEG WILL FAVOR TERMINATION OF MIDEASTFOR PRESENCE
ON BAHRAIN AND QUEITLY ENCOURAGE GOB TO STAND BY ITS DECISION OF LAST
YEAR. STATEMENTS BY OTHER REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS ON THIS ISSUE--INCLUD

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ING IRAN--WOULD NOT HAVE MAJOR IMPACT ON UAEG VIEWS.

2. INITIAL OJT EXPERIMENT HERE WAS DEFINITE SUCCESS AND VERY
POPULAR WITH ABU DHABI NAVAL PERSONNEL. ABU DHABI SEA WING DOES
NOT, HOWEVER, COUNT FOR MUCH IN POLITICAL SCHEME OF THINGS HERE
AND DESIRE TO SEE TRAINING CONTINUE WOULD NOT WEIGHT HEAVILY IN
FORMULATION OF POLICY ON QUESTION CONTINUED PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN.
BESIDES, UAEG WOULD WONDER WHY OJT OPPORTUNITIES COULD NOT BE
CONTINUED IN CONNECTION WITH PERIODIC VISITS FROM US NAVY SHIPS
ON INDIAN OCEAN STATION EVEN AFTER BAHRAIN FACILITY TERMINATED.
BARRING NEW FLARE-UP OF ARAB-ISRAEL TENSION, WE BELIEVE
UAEG WILL CONTINUE TO WELCOME SUCH VISITS, INCLUDING OJT.
STERNER

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